

Message Text

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72

ACTION NEA-09

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R 181335Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO EMIL MALICK, PRESIDENT
PROVESTA CORP., ADAMS BLDG.
BARTLESVILLE, OKLAHOMA
TELEX: 49-2455
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2534
USDOC WASHDC
AMEMBASSY CAIRO UNN

UNCLAS KUWAIT 1227

COMMERCE FOR MARY INOUSSA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, ENRG, EAGR, BMEP KU

SUBJECT: PROSPECTS DIM FOR PETROPROTEIN PROJECT

1. KATTOUF TALKED TO NAFISI AND REVIEWED PRESENT SITUATION WITH HIM. HIS AND OUR VIEW IS THAT GOVERNMENT OF KUWAIT (GOK) WILL NOT RPT NOT PERMIT PRIVATE GROUPS TO UNDERTAKE PROJECTS REQUIRING OIL OR GAS AS THE BASIC FEEDSTOCK. NEW GOK COMPANY, THE KUWAIT OIL, GAS AND ENERGY CO. WAS FORMED THIS SUMMER TO APPROVE AND ALLOCATE GAS AND OIL FOR DOMESTIC INDUSTRIAL VENTURES. KOSEC HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT IT WILL DEAL THROUGH ALREADY EXISTING COMPANIES SUCH AS KUWAIT NATIONAL PETROLEUM CO. AND PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRIES CO. ON NEW PROJECTS. THIS SEEMS TO APPLY TO EVEN THE MOST INFLUENTIAL KUWAITIS WHO LIE OUTSIDE THESE COMPANIES.

2. NAFISI IS, OF COURSE, ON THE BOARD OF KNPC, BUT THAT COMPANY HAS A BACKLOG OF MAJOR PROJECTS THEY SEEKING TO IMPLEMENT WHICH WOULD HAVE PRECEDENCE OVER A PETROPROTEIN MANUFACTURING OPERATION. KUWAIT DOES HAVE AN INTEREST IN RAISING LIVESTOCK LOCALLY, IN SUDAN, AND ELSEWHERE AND YOUR PROPOSAL, UNDOUBTEDLY, HAS LONG TERM POTENTIAL. NEVERTHELESS, PRESENT PROSPECTS HAVE

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DIMMED CONSIDERABLY TO THE POINT WHERE YOU MAY WISH TO CONSIDER

UNDERTAKING THIS PROJECT IN ANOTHER MIDDLE EASTERN STATE. WE UNDERSTAND GROUP IN KUWAIT IS LOOKING AT EGYPT FOR SUCH A PROJECT AND NAFISIS HAS OFFERED PUT YOU IN CONTACT WITH THEM IF YOU INTERESTED.

3. APPRECIATE YOUR FINE EFFORTS TO GET THIS PROJECT GOING IN KUWAIT AND GREATLY REGRET NEW GOK POLICY TOWARDS PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION IN PETROLEUM BASED INDUSTRY. NAFISI ALSO REGRETS RECENT TURN OF EVENTS, AND WE BELIEVE HAS DEALT IN GOOD FAITH. PLEASE LET US KNOW ANY WAY WE CAN BE FURTHER ASSISTANCE. STOLTZFUS

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Message Attributes

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